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CONLEY ROSE, P.C. P. O. BOX 3267 HOUSTON, TX 77253-3267			PATEL, DHIRUBHAI R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2831	

DATE MAILED: 05/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/645,212

Applicant(s)

EGAN, FALLON

Examiner

DHIRU R PATEL

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-9, 11-13 and 15-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 10, 14 and 19-26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, first and second connectors, and at least two connection members recited in claims 1, 11 and 20 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). The examiner suggest showing reference number for first and second connectors and two connection members. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance. No new matter should be entered. Applicant is responsible for showing reference number for claimed invention.
2. Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this office action. However, formal correction of the noted defect may be deferred until after the examiner has considered the proposed drawing correction. Failure to timely submit the proposed drawing correction will result in the abandonment of the application.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1- 3, 6-8 as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by

Hsu (5,266,740).

Hsu discloses:

Regarding claim 1, a connection cover 1 (see fig 1, column 1 line 62) comprising:

a first main body section 326 (see fig 1) comprising at least one opening (see fig 1);

a second main body section 336 comprising at least one opening (see fig 1);

first and second connectors 324, 334 adapted to engage the first and second main body sections (see figs 4-5); and the openings allowing at least two connection members 20 (see fig 1) to extend from the first and second main body sections when the first and second main body sections are engaged (see fig 5) .

Regarding claim 2, wherein the connection cover is generally cylindrical in shape (see fig 1).

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Regarding claim 3 wherein the first connector and second connector are releasably engageable (see fig 1 and the entire specification).

Regarding claim 6, wherein the first and second main body sections comprise more than one opening allowing more than two connection members to extend from the first and second main body sections (see fig 1).

Regarding claim 7, wherein the connection members comprise cables 20 comprising cable connectors 70 adapted to connect the cables (see fig 6, column 1 lines 55-61).

Regarding claim 8, wherein the connection members comprise a cable comprising a cable connector and a cellular telephone antenna comprising an antenna connector adapted to connect to the cable connector (see fig 1, column 1 lines 50-68). It is noted that the assembly of Hsu meet the structural limitations.

4. Claims 1- 3, and 6 as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lin (5,656,797).

Lin discloses:

Regarding claim 1, a connection cover comprising:

a first main body section 20 (see fig 3) comprising at least one opening 23, 24 (see fig 3);

a second main body section 30 comprising at least one opening 35,36 (see fig 3);

first and second connectors 21, 32 adapted to engage the first and second main body

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sections (see column 1 lines 65-68, column 2 lines 1-5); and the openings allowing at least two connection members 100 (see fig 3) to extend from the first and second main body sections when the first and second main body sections are engaged (see fig 3).

Regarding claim 2, wherein the connection cover is generally cylindrical in shape (see fig 3).

Regarding claim 3 wherein the first connector and second connector are releasably engageable (see fig 3).

Regarding claim 6, wherein the first and second main body sections comprise more than one opening 23, 24, 35, 36 allowing more than two connection members 100 to extend from the first and second main body sections (see fig 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claim 5 as best understood, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hsu (5,266,740).

Hsu discloses:

Regarding claim 5, Hsu disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, but fails to disclose further comprising more than one first connector and more than one second connector. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide any number of connectors, since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

6. Claim 5 as best understood, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Lin (5,656,797).

Lin discloses:

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Regarding claim 5, Lin disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, but fails to disclose further comprising more than one first connector and more than one second connector. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide any number of connectors, since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

7. Claims 9, 11-13, 15-18 as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsu (5,266,740) in view of Nazaryan et al (6,303,870).

Regarding claim 9, the assembly of Hsu disclose all the features of the claimed features as shown above, but fails to disclose further comprising first and second gaskets adapted to form a moisture-proof seal between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members. Nazaryan et al teach the use of gaskets 72A, 72B and gasket 84 to form a seal between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections 60, 62 (see column 4 lines 24-35) as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members (see column 4 lines 55-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the assembly of Hsu with gaskets between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections as well as between the first and second main body section

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opening surfaces and the connection members as taught by Nazaryan et al in order to form a seal as well as to protect from dust and rain.

Hsu discloses:

Regarding claim 11, a connection cover 1 (see fig 1, column 1 line 62) comprising:
a first main body section 326 (see fig 1) comprising at least one opening (see fig 1);
a second main body section 336 comprising at least one opening (see fig 1);
first and second connectors 32, 33 adapted to engage the first and second main body sections (see fig 1); and the openings allowing at least two connection members 20 (see fig 1, column 1 lines 50-61) to extend from the first and second main body sections when the first and second main body sections are engaged (see figs 4-5), but fails to disclose first and second gaskets adapted to form a moisture-proof seal between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members. Nazaryan et al teach the use of gaskets 72A, 72B and gasket 84 to form a seal between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections 60, 62 (see column 4 lines 24-35) as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members (see column 4 lines 55-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the assembly of Hsu with gaskets between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members as taught by Nazaryan et al in order to form a seal as well as to protect from dust and rain.

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Regarding claim 12, the modified assembly of Hsu shows all of the claimed features as shown above, including the connection cover is generally cylindrical in shape (see fig 1 of Hsu).

Regarding claim 13, the modified assembly of Hsu shows all of the claimed features as shown above, including the first connector and second connector are releasably engageable (see fig 1 of Hsu).

Regarding claim 15, the modified assembly of Hsu shows all of the claimed features as shown above, but fails to disclose further comprising more than one first connector and more than one second connector. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide any number of connectors, since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

Regarding claim 16, the modified assembly of Hsu shows all of the claimed features as shown above, including the first and second main body sections comprise more than one opening allowing more than two connection members to extend from the first and second main body sections (see fig 1 of Hsu).

Regarding claim 17, the modified assembly of Hsu shows all of the claimed features as shown above, including the connection members comprise cables 20 comprising cable connectors 70 adapted to connect the cables (see fig 6, column 1 lines 55-61 of Hsu).

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Regarding claim 18, the modified assembly of Hsu shows all of the claimed features as shown above, including wherein the connection members comprise a cable comprising a cable connector and a cellular telephone antenna comprising an antenna connector adapted to connect to the cable connector (see fig 1, column 1 lines 50-68 of Hsu). It is noted that the assembly of Hsu meet the structural limitations.

8. Claims 9, 11-13, 15-16 as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin (5,656,797) in view of Nazaryan et al (6,303,870). Regarding claim 9, the assembly of Lin disclose all the features of the claimed invention, but fails to disclose further comprising first and second gaskets adapted to form a moisture-proof seal between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members. Nazaryan et al teach the use of gaskets 72A, 72B and gasket 84 to form a seal between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections 60, 62 (see column 4 lines 24-35) as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members (see column 4 lines 55-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the assembly of Lin with gaskets between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members as taught by Nazaryan et al in order to form a seal as well as to protect from dust and rain.

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Lin discloses:

Regarding claim 11, a connection cover comprising:

a first main body section 20 (see fig 1) comprising at least one opening 23, 24 (see fig 1);

a second main body section 30 comprising at least one opening 35,36 (see fig 1);

first and second connectors 21, 31 adapted to engage the first and second main body sections (see column 1 lines 65-68, column 2 lines 1-5); and the openings allowing at least two connection members 100 (see fig 1) to extend from the first and second main body sections when the first and second main body sections are engaged (see fig 1).

, but fails to disclose first and second gaskets adapted to form a moisture-proof seal between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members. Nazaryan et al teach the use of a first and second gaskets 72A, 72B and gasket 84 to form a seal between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections 60, 62 (see column 4 lines 24-35) as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members (see column 4 lines 55-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the assembly of Lin with gaskets being adapted to form a seal between the contact surfaces of the first and second main body sections as well as between the first and second main body section opening surfaces and the connection members as taught by Nazaryan et al as well as to protect from dust and rain.

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Regarding claim 12, the modified assembly of Lin shows all of the claimed features as shown above, including the connection cover is generally cylindrical in shape (see fig 1 of Lin).

Regarding claim 13, the modified assembly of Lin shows all of the claimed features as shown above, including the first connector and second connector are releasably engageable (see fig 1 of Lin).

Regarding claim 15, the modified assembly of Lin shows all of the claimed features as shown above, including further comprising more than one first connector 21, 22 and more than one second connector 31, 32 (see fig 1 of Lin).

Regarding claim 16, the modified assembly of Lin shows all of the claimed features as shown above, including the first and second main body sections comprise more than one opening allowing more than two connection members to extend from the first and second main body sections (see fig 3 of Lin).

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 4, 10, 14, 19 and 20-26 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the drawings objection set forth in this Office action.

10. Claims 4, 10, 14 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The primary reasons for the indication of the allowability of claims 4, 10, 14 and 19-26 are the inclusion therein, in combination as currently claimed, of the limitation of the receptor comprising a releasing tab adapted to release the insert (for claims 4, 14 and 20-26), and each gasket further comprises a tongue section adapted to engage a corresponding groove section of the other gasket (for claims 10 and 19).

The previously listed limitation is neither disclosed nor taught by the prior art of record, alone or in combination.

Contact information

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dhuru Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272 - 1983748. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays- Thursdays from 6:30 am to 4:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard be reached at 571-272-2800 ext 31. The fax number for this Group is 703-872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2800 ext 31.

Dhuru Patel
Primary Examiner
Group Art Unit 2831
May 1, 2004

Dhuru Patel
Primary Examiner
5/1/04.